H-0279.1			

State of Washington

HOUSE BILL 1393

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Brown, Patterson, Chopp, Dickerson and Thibaudeau Read first time 01/24/95. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to allowances for dependent care costs; and 2 amending RCW 43.03.050.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.03.050 and 1990 c 30 s 1 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
- 6 (1) The director of financial management shall prescribe reasonable 7 allowances to cover reasonable and necessary subsistence and lodging expenses for elective and appointive officials and state employees 8 9 while engaged on official business away from their designated posts of 10 duty. The director of financial management may prescribe and regulate the allowances provided in lieu of subsistence and lodging expenses and 11 12 may prescribe the conditions under which reimbursement for subsistence and lodging may be allowed. The schedule of allowances adopted by the 13 14 office of financial management may include special allowances for 15 foreign travel and other travel involving higher than usual costs for subsistence and lodging or for dependent care costs for persons who are 16 17 required to be away from home on work-related business beyond the standard eight-hour work day, including weekends and commute time. 18

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- 1 allowances established by the director shall not exceed the rates set 2 by the federal government for federal employees.
- 3 (2) Those persons appointed to serve without compensation on any 4 state board, commission, or committee, if entitled to payment of 5 travel expenses, shall be paid pursuant to special per diem rates 6 prescribed in accordance with subsection (1) of this section by the 7 office of financial management.
 - (3) The director of financial management may prescribe reasonable allowances to cover reasonable expenses for meals, coffee, and light refreshment served to elective and appointive officials and state employees regardless of travel status at a meeting where: (a) The purpose of the meeting is to conduct official state business or to provide formal training to state employees or state officials; (b) the meals, coffee, or light refreshment are an integral part of the meeting or training session; (c) the meeting or training session takes place away from the employee's or official's regular workplace; and (d) the agency head or authorized designee approves payments in advance for the meals, coffee, or light refreshment. In order to prevent abuse, the director may regulate such allowances and prescribe additional conditions for claiming the allowances.
- 21 (4) Upon approval of the agency head or authorized designee, an agency may serve coffee or light refreshments at a meeting where: (a) The purpose of the meeting is to conduct state business or to provide formal training that benefits the state; and (b) the coffee or light refreshment is an integral part of the meeting or training session. The director of financial management shall adopt requirements necessary to prohibit abuse of the authority authorized in this subsection.
 - (5) The schedule of allowances prescribed by the director under the terms of this section and any subsequent increases in any maximum allowance or special allowances for areas of higher than usual costs shall be reported to the ways and means committees of the house of representatives and the senate at each regular session of the legislature.

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